

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /044 W

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R 271606Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1884

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1098

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ ELAB, PINT, PO

SUBJ: POTENTIAL OF "BASE" AS INDEPENDENT LABOR ORGANIZATION

1. EMBASSY AWARE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS "BASE"-FRENTE UNITARIA DE TRABALHADORES," OR MORE COMMONLY AS "BASE-FUT," MAKING CLAIMS OUTSIDE OF PORTUGAL THAT IT REPRESENTS SUBSTANTIAL FORCE WITHIN PORTUGUESE LABOR MOVEMENT OPPOSED TO COMMUNIST-DOMINATED LABOR CONFEDERATION, INTERSINDICAL.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES SUCH CLAIMS LARGELY SELF-SERVING. BASE-FUT KNOWN TO HAVE ADHERENTS ACTIVE IN SEVERAL UNIONS BUT THEIR EFFECTIVENESS HAMPERED BY LIMITED NUMERICAL STRENGTH, WIDE-RANGE OF ORGANIZATION'S SOCIO-POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, AND LACK OF COHESIVE IDOLOGY. POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF BASE-FUT ADHERENTS RANGES FROM MIDEYLY SOCIALIST TO FAR-LEFT FRINGE. ORGANIZATION AT THIS TIME REPRESENTS NO MORE THAN NUISANCE TO INTERSINDICAL LEADERSHIP. IF WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUB ROSA SUPPORT AS IN THE PAST, BASE-FUT MAY HAVE
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SOME LIMITED POTENTIAL WITHIN LABOR OVER THE LONG TERM.

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Message Attributes

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